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Justice

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union  
(ILGWU)

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8-1-1956

## Justice (Vol. 38, Iss. 15)

International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU)

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## Justice (Vol. 38, Iss. 15)

### Keywords

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, ILGWU, labor unions, clothing workers, textile workers, garment workers, garment industry, New York, United States

### Comments

*Justice* was the official publication of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union ILGWU from 1919 to 1995. Editions of *Justice* were published in English, Italian, Spanish, and Yiddish. When compared side by side, the content of some of these different editions of *Justice* shows significant differences. This is the English-language edition of *Justice*.

AUG 3 1956

# CHICAGO ILG CENTER USED IN POLIO FIGHT

Give \$150,000 to M

Dimes

## JUSTICE

INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

Nol. XXXVIII. No. 15

Jersey City, N. J., August 1, 1956

Price 10 Cents

# Garment Workers In N.Y. Hail Mobile Unit Going as ILG Gift to Puerto Rico

—Page 2



### 7th Avenue to Puerto Rico

THOUSANDS of New York garment workers gathered in the heart of the largest garment center in the world on July 25 to hear Mayor Robert F. Wagner, Pres. David Dubinsky and others dedicate the \$40,000 ILGWU Mobile Health Center that is being sent to Puerto Rico by the union to service its members on that island. In the week following the dedication, the center was scheduled to tour the city, making day-long stops in central locations of four of the city's boroughs to enable the general public to view the unique medical service center. The mobile type of health center was developed by the ILGWU to meet the health needs of its members in Pennsylvania living too far from the stationary health centers. A mobile health unit, duplicate of the one going to Puerto Rico, is to be dedicated in Atlanta, Ga., August 2. It will service the Southeast Region of the ILGWU.

STACK 3



Fred Niemi of Northeast Dept., Edna Levine, Local 185 driver, secure unit.

Frs. David Dubinsky told 15,000 who attended dedication ceremony in heart of garment center that ILGWU healthmobile would help raise island living standards.

Chorus of Local 68-A, directed by Ben Wolf, rendered stirring labor melodies.

# Puerto Rico Healthmobile Dedicated

Thousands of New York's garment workers on July 25 joined Mayor Robert F. Wagner and Pres. David Dubinsky in dedicating the ILGWU Mobile Health Center which is to be sent as a gift on Aug. 3 to Puerto Rico, where it will service organized garment workers. The huge, 35-foot long custom-built vehicle was scheduled to remain for two days in the heart of the garment center, at 28th St. and Seventh Ave., then move through the city, making whole-day stops at selected locations at which it could be viewed by the public.

The dedication ceremony brought Latin song and dance to busy 28th st. during the noon-hour in which thousands viewed the vehicle, which is of the same type as the mobile

of which touched off dancing by the audience in the streets.

Mayor Wagner hailed the unit as a great aid in bringing good health to the garment workers in Puerto Rico. He declared that those who had come from the island to the great city of New York were making an important contribution to the life of the city and were fine, loyal citizens.

Monterrat, as did the other speakers, noted the dedication and presentation of the mobile

health unit was being made on Commonwealth Day in Puerto Rico, a most appropriate time for the presentation to be made.

Judge Snyder pointed to the unit as another physical manifestation of the many spiritual bonds that link Puerto Rico and the United States.

A message was read from Dr. Fernon-Ireri, resident commissioner of Puerto Rico in Washington who expressed regret over his inability to be present because of government

(Continued on Page 10)

## WASHINGTON MEMO

by John Herling

## Aid to Pensions Marks Exit of Senator George

WASHINGTON—Drama is never far from the Congressional stage—especially in closing days of legislative sessions in a Presidential election year.

"The Senators and Representatives we send to Washington don't always speak new parts or stand up for the good and true; sometimes, however, as a Washington correspondent looks down from the press gallery, he sees a show that he wishes every citizen could share with him. Such an event took place a few days ago when Senator Walter P. George led the Senate in passing an amendment liberalizing the Social Security Act.

What made the role of the Senator from Georgia so dramatic was that this was his farewell appearance in the Senate—and everybody knew it. You felt that this 77-year-old Senator, whom President Franklin D. Roosevelt wanted to "purge" in 1932 as belonging to the "horse and buggy" age, was determined to go out trailing clouds of glory. The fact is that Senator George—after a lifetime of service at the back and call of the leading business interests of Georgia—was being dumped by them in favor of Governor Herman Talmadge.

But apparently he decided he was going to go out with a terrific bang and not a whimper. So, with great intensity he latched on to the amendments which would provide social security benefits for permanently disabled workers at the age of 50 and make women eligible for pensions at the age of 62. This legislation was going to be his banner. Said George of Georgia: "This is the most important question I have ever presented to the American people."

To the argument advanced by the American Medical Association that this was another step toward "socialized medicine," the Georgia Senator warned that AMA's backward position would in fact hasten trends toward "socialized medicine."

### Passed by Narrow Margin

But while the debate was going on, strong pressure was being applied off-stage by the Eisenhower Administration leadership to defeat the amendment, which finally was passed by the narrowest of margins—47 to 45.

Senator Byrd of Virginia, chairman of the Finance Committee and long a buddy-in-arms of Senator George on matters of this sort, led the fight against George's position. But Senator George was so intent on making a noble and memorable exit that he was beyond any call of old camaraderie.

But that margin of two votes was like the skin of your teeth. If a single vote had switched to the other side, it would have been a tie. Then, Vice President Richard Nixon—"Mobile Dick"—was all set to cast the vote the White House wanted it—against disability benefits. He was never to get the chance.

One Republican Senator could have created a tie: Senator Alexander Wiley of Wisconsin. But Wiley was in no mood to obey Administration wishes. Only a month ago, he refused to give him even a nod of approval in his primary fight for the Senate. Wiley realized that standing with George—at all with Liberal Senator like Lehman of New York, Douglas of Illinois, Humphrey of Minnesota would help him with the rank and file of the voters in his own state. He voted for the liberalizing amendments.



## New Shop, Old Resister Both Surrender to EOT

Typical of the varied circumstances in which the Eastern Out-of-Town Department functions, one firm on Long Island was unionized recently within two weeks after it started operations, while another shop in the area was brought to terms only

after a determined, three-year drive, reports Vice Pres. Israel Horowitz, EOT general manager. Brought into union ranks rapidly was Custom Broilers of Inwood, which signed a contract based on standards provided by the EOT-independent agreement and the collective pact in the New York corner and brosserie industry.

Under its terms, the work week was reduced from 40 to 35 hours, with plant workers getting a compensating wage increase and week workers receiving the same wages for 35 hours as they previously obtained for 40. Both piece and week workers will be paid at all time and one-half for all work after daily regular hours, and will get three and one-half holidays with pay.

The agreement also provides for full coverage under the union's health, welfare and retirement program; and the company has agreed to assume the full cost for providing disability benefits without any deductions from workers' wages.

In the event New York City curfew and brasserie workers win additional improvement, such benefits automatically will become part of the Custom contract and will become effective the same date they are applicable in the industry. Mildred Cetrone was designated shop chairlady.

After settling unionization for almost three years, Hedy Mel of Lynbrook finally signed a union contract. Through the cooperation

of the New York Undergarment Local 62 and Acting Manager Matthew Schoenwald, the company agreed to start negotiations, and after numerous sessions, settlement was reached on past terms.

Following the industry-wide pattern, the contract provides for reduction in the work week from 40 to 35 hours, with compensating wage adjustments; overtime pay, and three paid holidays for both piece and line workers. The firm will bear the full cost of disability benefits, with no deductions from workers' wages.

Conchita Bartolome was named shop chairlady.

Long Island ROTERS active in organizing efforts at these shops included Manager Richard Corbano and staffers Bert Cooper, Minnie Morton, Francis Virago, Emanuel Leventhal and Anthony Allica.

### Filing to Start Sept. 1

#### For Skirtmaker Pensions

Applications for pension benefits from the Skirt and Sportswear Retirement Fund will be accepted from Sept. 1 to Oct. 15. Local 23 Manager Louis Reiss has announced. Applications must appear in person at the office of the fund, 25 West 28th St., eighth floor, at 4 p.m. and must be filed with them their dues book and a photostatic copy of proof of age.

health unit, pioneered by the ILGWU Northeast Department that was put into emergency service in Pennsylvania during last year's floods.

### Mayor Hails Unit

The four speakers who addressed the audience included Pres. Dubinsky, Mayor Wagner, A. Cecil Snyder, Chief Justice of the Puerto Rican Supreme Court and Joseph Monterrat, director of the New York office, Migration Division, Puerto Rican Department of Labor.

In addition a noted Latin band provided musical selection, some

## JUSTICE

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and General Secretary-Treasurer  
LEON STEIN, Editor

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Rodin May and accompanists made big hit with rhythmic Puerto Rican tunes.



Inspecting unit are, left to right, Pres. Dublinsky, Mayor Robert F. Wagner, A. Cecil Snyder, chief justice of Puerto Rico, and Joseph Monarrat of island's Labor Dept.



Enthusiastic garment workers, some wearing "pava," acclaimed healthfulness.

# ILGWU in Chicago Makes Available Health Center for Polio Shots

## Hikes for Dressmakers In Kansas City Renewals

A new four-year agreement featuring wage gains capped negotiations with Kansas City dress manufacturers last month, as parleys promptly got under way to renew the sportswear pact, reports Vice Pres. Meyer Perlstein, Southwest regional director.

Provided in the renewed dress contract are general wage increases, higher minimums for more experienced workers, continuation of six paid holidays annually, one- and two-week paid vacations, 3 per cent of payroll contribution by employers for medical and retirement benefits, and a number of other improvements.

A tentative agreement reached between the union and the sportswear branch of the Kansas City Garment Manufacturers' Association included wage boosts for all workers, higher minimums for more experienced employees, the 32-hour week, five paid holidays, one- and two-week paid vacations and health and retirement benefits.

The current sportswear talks cover eight manufacturers, most of whose shops are in Kansas City, Mo., with a few subsidiary shops operating in Paola, Kan., and other towns.

Upon completion of negotiations with the Kansas City sportswear group, talks are slated to start with individual sportswear manufacturers with plants in Kansas City, Mo., and Paola, Holton and Olathe, Kan.

The improvements set forth in the union's agreement will be the

Mayor Richard J. Daley of Chicago and Dr. Herman N. Bundesen, president of the Chicago Board of Health, last week readily accepted the offer of Vice Pres. Morris Bialis to make the ILGWU Chicago Health Center available to the city for emergency use in the current upsurge of infantile paralysis cases in the midwest metropolis.

In thousands of leaflets distributed to garment shops in the city, he emphasized that the services would be available to all, regardless of whether they are affiliated with the union or not.

As soon as the offer was accepted, Bialis reports, workers began to convert the vast meeting room area on the street level floor of the ILGWU building at 13 South Wacker Drive, which houses the ILGWU Health Center on its sixth floor and the union's headquarters offices.

The ground floor is being used as that men, women and children can come right in off the street without waiting for elevators and with minimum delay receive the Salk vaccine inoculations used in fighting polio. The city faces an emergency situation with the sudden flare-up of the dread disease, and it has been estimated that about half a million shots will have to be administered in a ten-day period if the situation is to be kept in check.

### 26 Physicians Serve

The ILGWU arrangement will put at the service of the community not only the readily accessible space for medical service, but also a corps of nurses and 26 physicians, who will be stationed in the emergency clinic of the union headquarters building for the duration of the emergency. First inoculations were given on July 26. The service is available daily from 10 A.M. to 6:30 P.M. for all persons from six months to three years of age.

"The situation confronting our city," said Bialis "requires the

utmost effort of all citizens. Our union has a long record of interest in community health and especially in fighting infantile paralysis, a fight to which our members, in good season or bad, contributed most generously."

"We have made these facilities and services available to the city because all of us are vitally and directly concerned in fighting this disease, and in safeguarding the city in which we work and live."

### Flood Aid Recalled

Bialis also pointed out that last September, when damaging floods hit eastern sections of the United States, a mobile health unit of the ILGWU was similarly placed at the service of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and rendered heroic aid in bringing anti-typhus inoculations to areas that were badly hit. The unit and the ILGWU were later cited by Governor Leader of Pennsylvania.

Similar units are now being set into service by the ILGWU in Puerto Rico and in the sparsely settled areas of the United States.

The ILGWU Chicago Health Center will meanwhile continue to render its regular services to union members at its sixth floor location in the headquarters building.

## Knit Accessory Ups Floor Minimums \$3

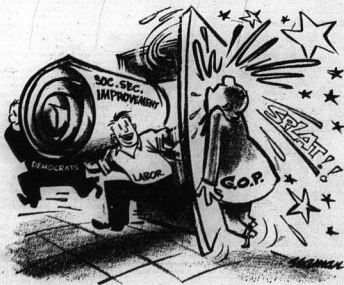
All floor help employed in the knitted accessory sections of the knifoods industry have received a \$3 increase in the minimum wage, reports Vice Pres. Louis Nelson, manager of Knifoods Local 138.

This rise concludes the local's drive to bring minimums of all organized knifoods workers above the federal floor of \$1 an hour, he indicated.

In addition, an increase of \$2 a week in minimum scales for all knitters in this section of the industry went into effect on July 15 in accordance with terms of the collective agreement signed in July 1954.

Applications for retirement of 13 veteran knifoods workers have been approved, bringing the total number of local retirees to the 200 mark.

## "Out of the Way, Bub!"



## 200 in Vancouver Win Jantzen Hikes

Some 200 workers employed at Jantzen Building Mills in Vancouver, British Columbia, won substantial wage boosts and other improvements under terms of a renewed contract negotiated last month, reports General Organizer Sam Herbat.

Gains include a 6 per cent wage increase, nine paid holidays instead of six, two weeks' vacation with pay after 11 months of employment, and union security provisions.

Business Agent Ann Marshall assisted in the negotiations.

# ILGWU to Split \$150,000; Antonini Leads Drive

Appointment of First Vice Pres. Luigi Antonini as chairman of the AFL-CIO Committee of the Greater New York March of Dimes Campaign, and announcement that ILGWU members this year contributed the record total of \$150,892 for the fight against the polio, point up the active role of the garment workers in bringing nearer victory over the dread disease.

Donating close to a million dollars since the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis started its drive, ILGWU members, through their dues and dollars, went a long way in making possible the vital research efforts that culminated in development of the Salk vaccine, which has been instrumental in halting the number of polio cases in the nation.

## Record High

This year's ILGWU local (see tabulation of local and joint boards at right) again topped the previous high, and far surpassed the sums contributed by members of any other trade union in the country.

Especially outstanding achievements were claimed by the Italian Dressmakers' Local 25, Knickerbock Local 153, the New York Clerk Joint Board, the Eastern Out-of-Town and Clerk Out-of-Town Department, Children's Dress Local 51, Undergarment Local 45 and a number of districts of the Northeast Department, among them Easton-Stromberg and Allen-Town, Pa.

In inviting Antonini to head up the New York labor division of the Dimes campaign, Director Ernest M. Frost hailed the "outstanding

record" made by ILGWU members in the union's 1956 drive, which was under the direction of the Local 81 chief.

## Tribute to Labor

"All of you who gave time, energy and money so generously down through the years have the satisfaction of knowing that thousands of victims who have this disease, children and adults alike, are receiving the best available medical care and treatment. The Salk vaccine, which we hope in the future will be available to all age groups, is a milestone in the history of our great humanitarian organization."

"Many of those stricken by polio and all those who will live in a polio-free world are indebted in great part to the members of organized labor and particularly the ILGWU," he stated.

Both the New York AFL-CIO Trades and Labor Council and the New York City CIO Council strongly endorsed the naming of Antonini.

For ten years, until his death in January 1955, the late Local 81 Executive Secretary Frederick P. Umberg headed New York labor's anti-polio activities and spurred the all-out efforts of ILGWU affiliates throughout the country in mobilizing support for the crusade to conquer infantile paralysis.

## TABULATION OF CONTRIBUTIONS FROM LOCALS AND JOINT BOARDS

LOCAL	AMOUNT	LOCAL	AMOUNT	LOCAL	AMOUNT	LOCAL	AMOUNT
20 New York	2,668.00	Chicago, Ill.	400.00	448 Jackson, Mich.	64.63	323 Richmond, Md.	5.00
22 " "	1,444.00	Chicago Minn. Local	832.00	493 Jackson, Tenn.	19.00	194 Jacksonville, Ill.	14.00
23 " "	1,450.41	281 Chicago, Pa.	500.00	4531 Jackson, Pa.	97.50	125 Baltimore, Md.	14.10
28 " "	287.00	Wm. ....	97.00	4600 Johnson City, N.Y.	90.00	400 Knapville, N.Y.	37.00
30 " "	1,543.98	301 " "	138.70	4610 " "	10.00	1035 St. Charles, Mo.	24.45
38 " "	590.00	302 " "	50.00	4624 Johnson City, N.Y.	1,305.00	380 Salt Lake	80.00
40 " "	1,145.00	303 " "	50.00	4630 " "	55.50	381 San Francisco	55.50
46 " "	1,871.30	304 Cleveland, O.	77.00	4635 " "	138.70	382 " "	1,077.48
50 " "	1,410.00	305 " "	50.00	4640 " "	138.70	383 " "	1,146.07
60 " "	6,500.00	306 Cleveland Knickerbocker	50.00	4645 " "	138.70	384 " "	23.50
70 " "	6,000.00	307 " "	50.00	4650 " "	138.70	385 " "	42.35
78 " "	400.00	308 " "	50.00	4655 " "	138.70	386 " "	1,407.85
90 " "	120.00	309 " "	50.00	4660 " "	138.70	387 " "	20.12
98 " "	6,000.00	310 " "	50.00	4665 " "	138.70	388 " "	4,705.90
120 " "	275.75	311 " "	50.00	4670 " "	138.70	389 " "	23.50
122 " "	1,155.00	312 " "	50.00	4675 " "	138.70	390 " "	690.45
124 " "	672.00	313 " "	50.00	4680 " "	138.70	391 " "	25.15
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134 " "	1,155.00	318 " "	50.00	4705 " "	138.70	396 " "	20.67
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138 " "	1,155.00	320 " "	50.00	4715 " "	138.70	398 " "	27.50
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146 " "	1,155.00	324 " "	50.00	4735 " "	138.70	402 " "	70.00
148 " "	1,155.00	325 " "	50.00	4740 " "	138.70	403 " "	15.70
150 " "	1,155.00	326 " "	50.00	4745 " "	138.70	404 " "	42.50
152 " "	1,155.00	327 " "	50.00	4750 " "	138.70	405 " "	15.25
154 " "	1,155.00	328 " "	50.00	4755 " "	138.70	406 " "	22.50
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160 " "	1,155.00	331 " "	50.00	4770 " "	138.70	409 " "	5.00
162 " "	1,155.00	332 " "	50.00	4775 " "	138.70	410 " "	12.53
164 " "	1,155.00	333 " "	50.00	4780 " "	138.70	411 " "	18.75
166 " "	1,155.00	334 " "	50.00	4785 " "	138.70	412 " "	14.00
168 " "	1,155.00	335 " "	50.00	4790 " "	138.70	413 " "	29.25
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250 " "	1,155.00	376 " "	50.00	4995 " "	138.70	454 " "	11.00
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256 " "	1,155.00	379 " "	50.00	5010 " "	138.70	457 " "	11.00
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260 " "	1,155.00	381 " "	50.00	5020 " "	138.70	459 " "	11.00
262 " "	1,155.00	382 " "	50.00	5025 " "	138.70	460 " "	11.00
264 " "	1,155.00	383 " "	50.00	5030 " "	138.70	461 " "	11.00
266 " "	1,155.00	384 " "	50.00	5035 " "	138.70	462 " "	11.00
268 " "	1,155.00	385 " "	50.00	5040 " "	138.70	463 " "	11.00
270 " "	1,155.00	386 " "	50.00	5045 " "	138.70	464 " "	11.00
272 " "	1,155.00	387 " "	50.00	5050 " "	138.70	465 " "	11.00
274 " "	1,155.00	388 " "	50.00	5055 " "	138.70	466 " "	11.00
276 " "	1,155.00	389 " "	50.00	5060 " "	138.70	467 " "	11.00
278 " "	1,155.00	390 " "	50.00	5065 " "	138.70	468 " "	11.00
280 " "	1,155.00	391 " "	50.00	5070 " "	138.70	469 " "	11.00
282 " "	1,155.00	392 " "	50.00	5075 " "	138.70	470 " "	11.00
284 " "	1,155.00	393 " "	50.00	5080 " "	138.70	471 " "	11.00
286 " "	1,155.00	394 " "	50.00	5085 " "	138.70	472 " "	11.00
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312 " "	1,155.00	407 " "	50.00	5150 " "	138.70	485 " "	11.00
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# Social Security Improvements Allow Women to Start Retirement at 62

The Senate Democratic leadership drove to a major victory over a bitterly hostile Eisenhower Administration by passing a bill providing significant improvements in social security.

For labor, the liberalizing social security bill could be marked down as the biggest victory of the session.

The AFL-CIO convention last December enthusiastically endorsed disability benefits, a lower pension-eligibility age for women and older federal old age assistance grants to the states.

By a 67 to 43 roll call, the Senate passed and adopted a proposal, offered by Senator Walter F. George (D., Ga.), to authorize monthly pension benefits for permanently and totally disabled workers at age 59.

A second amendment, offered by Senator Robert S. Kerr (D., Okla.), lowered the retirement age for wives and widows workers from 65 to 62 years.

Another proposal, sponsored by Senator Russell B. Long (D., La.), would substantially increase federal grants to the states for old age assistance to persons ineligible for social security pensions.

## Okay Senate Version

The House last year passed a somewhat different bill including disability and a lower retirement age for women.

On July 30, Senate-House conferees accepted the Senate version, under which working women at 62 could receive 30 per cent of the age-65 payment, and wives 75 per cent. This rate would be increased proportionately each month the women waited past age 62 to begin receiving social security benefits.

Only a possible veto by President Eisenhower remained as a bar to enactment.

## Administration Opposed

The Administration turned on tremendous heat to induce Republican Senators to vote down disability payments. Welfare Secretary Marvin B. Folsom testified against the provision in formal hearings, and the full power of the White House was used to keep GOP Senators "in line."

Within two hours of the crucial vote, White House pressure became so intense that four Republican Senators previously deemed friendly decided they had to "back up." One abstained from the roll call, the other three switched to vote against the amendment.

Eisenhower was backed by Chairman Harry Byrd (D., Va.), chairman of the powerful Finance Committee, who had led the way in blocking out the principal improvements passed by the House.

In an unusual spectacle of an open split between two old colleagues, Senator George led the floor debate against Byrd—and against the Administration—to restore a disability-benefit section.

## Better Life for Aged

The Veterans Group, retiring within a few days after 34 years in the Senate, made a fervent plea for his proposal in what was probably his last major speech as a legislator.

"This nation, blessed by an abundance, cannot afford to be parsimonious, timid and mean in the search for ways to make the life of its aged and infirm a happier one," he urged.

He pointed out that members of Congress, after only 10 years of service, can draw pensions of \$1,400 a year. And yet, he said, "You haggle, you squabble, over giving these [proposed] rights to men with work by the sweat of their brow."

On the roll call, 41 Democrats supported the amendment and only seven-all conservative Republicans-voted against it.

The Republicans denigrated the White House vote for the

George proposal, but 38 voted against it.

The House bill would have raised social security taxes by 1 per cent on the first \$4,300 of annual income, equally divided between employer and employee. The George amendment cut this to a total increase of one-half of 1 per cent and provided that a trust fund for disability benefits would be kept separate from the old-age pension reserve fund.

The Kerr amendment cut the benefits for women workers and for wives slightly below the levels set by the House.

Widows at age 62 would be eligi-

ble under the Senate bill for 100 per cent of the pensions previously payable at age 65. Retired women workers could begin at age 62 to draw 80 per cent of the total available at age 65, wives of retired workers could draw 75 per cent of the eventual monthly benefit.

The Long amendment provided for higher federal grants for old age assistance by authorizing a \$300-to-a-level-of-\$250-of-the-first-\$200 paid by the state to a retired worker. It also authorized matching funds from the federal government—above the \$300—to a maximum of \$60 per month to each beneficiary.

## Protesting Anti-Labor Practices



Virginia Brannon, Mickey Solibee, Freddie Vaughan and Martha Westbrook (left to right) are among the 85 strikers at Spartan Undergarment Co. in Spartanburg, South Carolina, who walked out on July 18 in protest against unfair labor practices committed by employer. Garment workers' strike is the first in area since 1938 stoppage by textile workers.

## Now It's Four Georgia Locals As Elberton Blouse Signs Up

Latest addition to Southeast ILGWU ranks, enrolled during the current organizational campaign in the region, is the Elberton Garment Co., blouse firm of Elberton, Ga., reports Regional Director E. T. Kehrer.

## CARBONDALE STRIKE BRINGS N'EAFT PACT AT JONILE COMPANY

A week-long strike by the employees of the Jonile Manufacturing Co. in Carbondale, Pa., resulted in the signing of a two-year agreement which brings 60 new members into the ILGWU fold. Vice Pres. David Glingold, director of the Northeast Dept., announced that Jonile is the fifth non-union shop in that city, which is part of Pennsylvania's "depressed area," to be organized this year.

"The pact provides for a general wage increase of 10 cents an hour; a reduction in the work week from 48 to 35 hours, with time and a half after seven hours a day, and five paid holidays a year. The hourly minimum wage has been increased bringing it above the federal floor.

The two-year contract also provides for employer contributions to the health, welfare, pension and retirement funds and sets up a union shop with standard grievance pro-

## The full story...

The stirring account of the 20-year fight to heal the breach in the ranks of American labor.

An essential document of American labor history.

FROM DIVISION TO UNITY

AFL and CIO

THE POSITION of the INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

from the REPORT of the GENERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD to the 29th CONVENTION of the INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. MAY 1954

This reprint from the report of the General Executive Board to the 29th ILGWU convention describes the part played by ILGWU leaders, headed by Pres. Dubinsky, in working for a reunited labor movement. It traces the role of John L. Lewis in the formation of the Committee for Industrial Organization and later the Congress of Industrial Organizations. Finally, it shows how, under the leadership of Pres. George Meany and with the cooperation of CIO leaders headed by Walter Reuther, a united labor movement was established in December 1955.

Ask for this pamphlet at the educational office of your local union.

OR

Clip this coupon and send with 15¢ to Education Dept., ILGWU 1710 Broadway New York 19, N. Y.

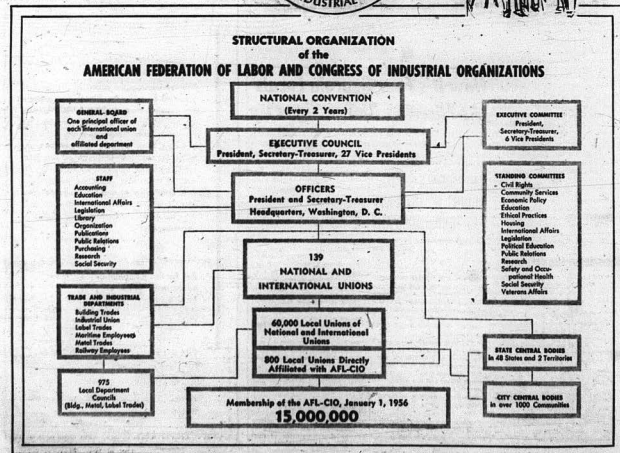
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Local \_\_\_\_\_

The structure of the largest  
free trade union movement in the  
world and how it is being used  
by 15 million working men and  
women in the United States to  
build a better America

# THIS IS THE AFL-CIO



Adapted from Publication No. 20 of  
the American Federation of Labor and  
Congress of Industrial Organizations.







The Executive Council meeting in new AFL-CIO headquarters in Washington, D.C.

**Channels of democratic unionism make AFL-CIO major instrument of labor peace and progress**



The Executive Committee is a smaller group, composed of the president, the secretary-treasurer and six vice presidents elected by the Executive Council. It meets more often than the council and serves as an advisory group.

The General Board is made up of the Executive Council plus one officer from each affiliated union and one from each of the six constitutional departments.

When the American Federation of Labor and the Congress of Industrial Organizations merged in December 1955, the new AFL-CIO became the largest trade union in the free world. The merger ended a 20-year split in the ranks of American labor and brought 15 million working Americans under one banner.

The new federation is composed of 139 autonomous unions in the United States. In turn, these international unions have more than 60,000 local unions which are also affiliated with some 1,100 state and local central bodies.

Through these bodies, American workers have negotiated and signed more than 100,000 agreements under which they have won improvements in their work and wage conditions and security on their jobs.

Each of the AFL-CIO national and international unions bargains collectively with employers, maintains its own headquarters, elects its own officers, maintains the staff needed for administering services, sets its own dues and services its own members.

The general policy of the combined labor movement on economic, legislative and political matters is set by the national convention held every two years. The convention, supreme body of the AFL-CIO, also elects officers. These include the president and the secretary-treasurer of the AFL-CIO and the 27 vice presidents. Together, they comprise the Executive Council, which is the official governing body of the AFL-CIO between conventions.



The structure of the AFL-CIO embodies the organizational experience of American workers going back to 1881, when the American Federation of Labor was founded. National and international unions deal with the problems of the trades and industries whose workers they service, while the AFL-CIO functions on a national scale and concentrates its efforts on matters pertaining to the general labor movement.

To do this, its officers function on constitutional committees dealing with legislation, civil rights, political education, ethical practices, international affairs, education, housing, social security, economic policy, community activities, health, etc. Its field staff aids affiliates in organizing, and its staff headquarters render special aid in the field of research, legal aid, public relations and other matters.

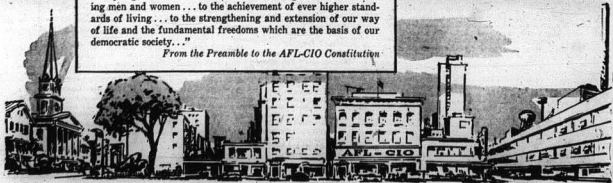


THE aims and aspirations of the AFL-CIO are clearly spelled out in its Constitution. In brief they are:

- To improve wages, hours and working conditions for workers.
- To bring the benefits of free collective bargaining to all workers.
- To achieve equality of opportunity for all workers, regardless of race, creed, color or national origin.
- To support legislation which will aid workers and to oppose harmful legislation.
- To protect and strengthen democratic institutions and to preserve America's democratic traditions.
- To aid in promoting the cause of peace and freedom in the world.
- To protect the labor movement against corruption and racketeers.
- To safeguard the labor movement from Communists, Fascists or other totalitarians.
- To encourage workers to register and vote and to exercise fully their responsibilities as citizens.
- To encourage the sale of union-made goods through the use of the union label.

"We pledge ourselves to the more effective organization of working men and women . . . to the achievement of ever higher standards of living . . . to the strengthening and extension of our way of life and the fundamental freedoms which are the basis of our democratic society..."

*From the Preamble to the AFL-CIO Constitution*



## Midwest Unionists Get Lowdown on Higher Knowledge at Summer Institute



Fifty members of ILGWU locals in the Midwest Region attended that area's summer institute conducted last month at the University of Wisconsin's School for Workers. Pictured at left are (left to right) William Davis, ILGWU representative from Detroit,

Vice Pres. Morris Ball, Midwest regional director, and unionists Bonnie Hutter (Marsell, Ill.), Alice Mural (Paru, Ind.), and Frank Donnelly (Racine, Wis.). At right, a class in labor history is taught by Jack Barbash of AFL-CIO Industrial Union Dept.

## 50 Midwest Region Students Complete One-Week Institute

Fifty ILGWU members came from six Midwest Region states to attend an ILGWU workers institute which was held at the School for Workers at the University of Wisconsin from July 15 to 21. The school, which is a pioneer institution of its kind, made available its staff and facilities once again to an enthusiastic group of ILGWU from Indiana, Wisconsin, Michigan, Kentucky, Illinois and Iowa, reports Vice Pres. Morris Ball, regional director.

The curriculum, which scheduled four one-hour classes each morning and one in the afternoon, was planned by the Midwest Region in conjunction with the ILGWU Education Department, with the cooperation of Robert Osanne, director of the School for Workers and his staff.

Classes in labor history were conducted by Jack Barbash, director of research and education, AFL-CIO Industrial Union Department, and Edward Young, an instructor, of the school; Ray Murts and Richard Humphreys, school instructors, also took classes to shop problems; Virginia Hart led the class on public speaking and conducting union meetings.

David Wells of the ILGWU Political Department conducted sessions on current political issues, and Lee Stierbach, of the Management-Engineering Department, taught classes in rate setting. The daily afternoon sessions, devoted to ILO problems, were conducted by Education Director Mark Starr and staff members.

Union officers who participated in the institute included Vice Pres. Ball; Harry Bowshov, Wisconsin state representative and manager of the Wisconsin Joint Board; William Davis of the Michigan ILGWU; Norbert Cecil, Michigan ILGWU organizer and business agent in the Chicago area.

A program of special activities was planned for after-class hours and a reception, included in these events were a picnic; a "get acquainted" party held on the evening of the group's arrival; film showings; talks on such timely topics as problems of the atom, by Prof. G. Sachs, meaning of the AFL-CIO merger, by Jack Barbash; and a description of a visit to Russia by Morris Ball, editor of The Progressive.

At the graduation exercises held Friday, July 21, Prof. Selig Perlman, labor historian, presented each student with a diploma. Prof. Perlman praised the union's outstanding pioneering accomplishments.

In his address to the graduates, Vice Pres. Ball reviewed a number of current problems confronting the industry. Upon his return to Chicago, he commended on the high degree of active interest shown by

the student-members in union problems and current political events and by their youth and vigor which "speaks well for the future of our union."

## ICFTU Sparks Global Fight for Free Labor

By ARNOLD BEICHMAN

The semi-annual session of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions Executive Board ranged far and wide over the globe—Poland, Algeria, Cyprus, Spain, Africa, the Dominican Republic—trying to see what free workers can do about the world's hotspots.

It concentrated also on the problems of raising wages and living standards in already organized areas while introducing the message of free trade unionism to areas of the world just entering a latter-day industrialism.

The week-long session, which also included a meeting of the ICFTU Consultative Council, moved from controversy to controversy yet managed, by and large, to resolve differences with some success.

### Director of Organization

On one issue there was no controversy—the appointment of Charles H. Millard, Canadian director of the Steelworkers, as ICFTU director of organization. Millard will probably take over his duties in the fall.

The board members stood in silence in memory of the heroic workers of Poznan, Poland, whose strike for bread and freedom was ended by Communist tanks, machine guns and anti-aircraft guns.

They challenged the new government of Poland to admit an ICFTU delegation to investigate the causes of the strike and the responsibility for use of armed force against the workers, and voted to help, from the International Solidarity Fund, the families of those slain. They also called upon the United Nations Commission on Human Rights and the International Labor Organization to investigate.

### Africa Confab

The ICFTU protested the "arbitrary measures" of French President Minister Robert Lacoste of Algeria. "In forbidding entry into Algeria" of Irving Brown, AFL-CIO representative on the ICFTU Ex-

## L.A. Show Features ILG-Made Apparel

Coats, suits, dresses and sportswear made by ILGWU in Los Angeles will be featured over television on Aug. 2 in a special preview of the annual AFL-CIO Union Products and Services Show, which will be held at the Pan-Pacific Auditorium during the week of Aug. 3 through 8.

The National Coat and Suit Recovery Board will maintain an exhibit at the show, stimulating public interest in the Consumers Protective Label.

## THE LABOR PICTURE

### Rubber Workers Obtain Supplemental Pay Plan

SUPPLEMENTAL JOBSHOP PAY benefits agreed into the rubber industry last month as workers employed by Goodrich, Goodyear, Firestone and U. S. Rubber won this step toward a guaranteed annual wage in new contracts negotiated by the United Rubber Workers.

Eleventh-hour settlements, which averted walkouts at the giant rubber concerns, provide for maximum weekly benefits, including state unemployment compensation, amounting to 65 per cent of straight-time pay. In addition, workers obtained a pay hike of 4.5 cents an hour.

EXTENSION OF THE FEDERAL MINIMUM wage law to some three million retail employees not now covered by the act is being pushed by the Retail Clerks' International Association. The union estimates that more than 750,000 workers in this field are earning less than \$1 an hour, the legal minimum for those covered by legislation.

"RIGHT-TO-WORK" LAWS took a wallop in Montana and Washington State last month. In Montana, supporters of the anti-union-shop bill could only muster some 5,000 signatures out of the 31,000 minimum needed to put the proposition on the ballot. Washington State backers also were having trouble on the same count. In the latter state, organized labor is getting the aid of the powerful Grange, representing 50,000 farm families, in the fight.

IN A FITCH TO FARMERS, the newly-united, million-member Canadian Labor Congress will counteract anti-labor propaganda by telling the union's story to the farmers at 18 country fairs to be held throughout Canada from the beginning of August to the middle of October.

WITH MORE THAN A FOURTH of the state AFL and CIO bodies already merged, unification of several international unions also is in the works. Stated to join forces at the end of July were the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Workers, formerly AFL, and the Government and Civilian Employees Committee, formerly CIO. Also, the CIO Barbers' Union last month merged into the AFL Journeymen Barbers.

CORPORATION SALES AND EARNINGS in the first quarter of 1956 were the highest on record for any similar period in any year in U. S. history, the Federal Trade Commission and the Security and Exchange Commission revealed last month in their joint report.

ROADBLOCKS TO ORGANIZING in a number of fields have been cleared away and unionization plans are moving ahead. AFL-CIO Organization Director John Livingston indicates. Agreements have been worked out between the two chemical unions for a drive at 35 DuPont plants; furniture workers and upholsterers have mapped out a campaign for the furniture industry; a drive at Reynolds Tobacco, last major non-union cigarette company, is making great progress, and the move to organize some 700,000 textile workers is proceeding according to plan.

THREE CONNECTICUT CITIES have banned the purchase of cashmade Kohler products. Resolutions adopted by the city councils of Waterbury, Bristol and Ansonia specify that contractors doing work for these localities may not use any products manufactured by Kohler, Wisconsin plumbing firm which has spurned every effort to settle the two-year strike of the United Auto Workers.

AS AN OUTGROWTH OF THE MIAMI hotel strike, Florida, for the first time in history, may establish legal machinery to green-berdize bargaining relationships between unions and employers. In the absence of such facilities, hotel employers have refused to recognize the union, even though in some instances court-appointed referees have certified that it represents the majority of workers.

THE TRADITIONALLY INDEPENDENT Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen has decided to join the united labor movement, adding 80,000 members to AFL-CIO ranks. The Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, largest of the independent rail unions, also is expected to come into the federation soon.

—N. M.

## Workers in 4 Shops Go ILG In Puerto Rico Bra Campaign

Workers at four braiseric shops in Puerto Rico joined the ranks of the ILGWU last month as the union's organizing drive continued unabated.

According to Manager Robert Gladnick, the union's island representative, workers of the following firms voted unanimously to switch from affiliation with a federal labor union to membership in the ILGWU: Pan American Craft in San Juan, and Jean, Atlantic Accessories and Puerto Rico Shoulder Strap in Bayamon.

Aurea Perez was elected shop chairlady at Pan American Craft, while Elvira Carrillo and Carmen del Rio were chosen to represent the three Bayamon shops. Leona Vantepoor, a former Pan American worker who has been active as an organizer, will serve as business agent for these shops.

On another organizing front, the union has signed up over 50 per cent of the workers of George Berger, Inc., one of the largest hosiery factories on the island. The shop should soon be under contract, according to Gladnick.

"Mendable, in Cayer, a shop owned by one of the most bitter anti-union employers, the Gordonshire Knitting Co., is gradually succumbing to the union's island-wide organizing campaign. A majority of the workers have signed up, and the union will soon apply for a National Labor Relations Board certifying election.

Conducting the island's untiring drive is Alberto Sanchez, director of organization, assisted by organizers Emilia Rodriguez, Felicitas Cruz and Mercedes Diaz.

Local 600's piece settlement ma-

chings was tested recently and found to be in good shape. At the Undergarment Accessories Co. of Carolina, where the piece had been increased, the union insisted that it be reduced. After lengthy negotiations, the firm agreed that work standards would be safeguarded. Business Agent Emilia Torres and Petra Luz Mercado, shop chairlady, were assisted by Gladnick in the parleys.

Educational and social activities also have marked the development and growth of Puerto Rico's young ILGWU affiliate. In Juana Diaz, workers of the Juana Diaz Manufacturing Co. recently held a dance, and enough money was raised to provide a permanent soccer and sports agenda for the workers.

At the Beatrice Shop in Ponce, Genoveva Rodriguez was elected new unitary, replacing Julia Gaud, who is leaving for the mainland.

## Flurry of Pact Negotiations Breaks Chi Mid-Summer Lull

A flurry of contract negotiations has put an end to the normal mid-summer lull in the activities of Chicago Local 76, reports Vice Pres. Morris Bialy, Midwest regional director.

Negotiations via a wage reopening provision have begun with the Rubens and Marble Co., manufacturers of infants' wear. The case was conducted by Manager Sam Glassman and Jack Rubin, administrative secretary of Chicago's miscellaneous locals.

Local 76 is also preparing to review the firm has signed a new Products Co. The firm, now contracting for the government, has been under union agreement for the past five years.

In the organizing field, the ILGWU banner has been hoisted at the Raphael Sportswear Co., and the firm has signed a contract providing the standards prevailing throughout the sportswear industry.

Wage lockouts, shorter hours and higher minimums are included: The pact, negotiated by Glassman and Rubin, is effective as of Aug. 1 and will run until Dec. 28, 1956.

More contract renewals erode the union's agenda for September.

### Jean-Claire Stoll

Elsewhere in Illinois, contract talks again were slated to get underway between Local 861 of Benton and Jean-Claire Fashion. Recent parleys, proved fruitless because of the company's allergy to union demands. Should the firm again resort to jitter-end resistance during current negotiations, the union is prepared to take all ac-

## B'klyn Cloak Unit In Staff Changes

Frank Placecchio, who has been assistant manager of the New York City Cloak Unit's Organization Department has been appointed assistant supervisor of its Brooklyn office, succeeding Samuel Zolotor, who was recently named supervisor. Announcement of the change was made by Brooch Mendelsohn, assistant to the general manager of the Cloak Joint Board, at a recent meeting of its board of directors.

Another recent change in the joint board's Brooklyn division was the naming of John Demaro to head the Beneshovitch effort in that borough. Demaro has been a business agent in the Brooklyn office

## Winner ...



Crowned "Miss Organized Labor of Mississippi" at labor fair cosponsored by ILGWU in McComb, was Joyce Elder, entry of Jackson County Central Labor Union. She is an office worker at Ingalls Shipbuilding Corp.

## Stumbling Block of Employers Snarls Montreal Dress Talks

The union has rejected an illegal demand of the Montreal Dress Manufacturers' Guild in the latest development of negotiations, snarled for two-months by a barrier of management stumbling blocks, reports Vice Pres. Bernard Shane.

## MEANY ASKS TAX CUT OF \$3-BILLION TO AID LOW-INCOME GROUPS

AFI-CIO Pres. George Meany has asked Congress for an immediate \$3 billion tax cut to assist low-income and middle-income families and to help strengthen small businesses.

In a letter to Congressional leaders and to members of the tax-writing House Ways and Means Committee, Meany pointed out that the government rolled up a cash-budget surplus of close to \$3 billion in the fiscal year that ended June 30.

A modest tax cut for low-income and middle-income families and small corporations, he said, "would still leave some \$2 billion" for federal debt retirement.

A tax cut now for these groups is particularly justified, he urged, "to stimulate the economy" in the face of declines in automobile production, home building and electrical appliances.

Mentioned in the Congressional budget deficit was about \$2 billion, the administration advocated—and got passed—tax cuts for large corporations and for wealthy individuals amounting to more than \$3 billion.

He specifically recommended that low-income and middle-income taxpayers be given an increase in exemptions from \$400 to \$700 per person or that the tax structure be changed to reduce the rate on the first \$1,000 of taxable income from 20 per cent to 15 per cent.

## N'East Worcester Picketing Scores Victory at H-R Sport

All-out activity on the picket line brought full-fledged victory to some 100 workers at the H. & R. Sportswear Co. in Worcester, Mass., when the firm signed its first ILGWU contract, ending a strike of several weeks' duration, reports Vice Pres.

David Gifford, Northeast Department director.

According to Northeast Field Supervisor Jack Halpern, the firm, which is a contractor for Personal Sportswear of Boston, agreed to grant the same conditions that are in effect at other area contractors.

These include three paid holidays, minimum above the federal floor, and employer's contributions to health and welfare funds.

Vice Pres. Philip Kramer, manager of the Boston Joint Board, cooperated in the drive. Organization and strike efforts were under the direction of District Manager Ralph Roberts, aided by Assistant Manager John P. Albano and staff members.

Among the gains won by the workers are the 35-hour week, and one-half paid holidays, and standard health, welfare and retirement benefits.

The firms are the following: Alan Cost Co. of Newark, N. J., employing approximately 50 workers. This firm comes under the jurisdiction of Local 135, whose manager is Sam Patti. Shop chairlady is Marie Young.

Alvina Fashion of Port Jervis, N. Y. This shop is serviced by Local 163, under Manager Irving Attore. Olive Barber is shop chairlady. President Sportswear of Passaic, N. J. About 40 new members signed up in this shop will join Local 156, of which William Villano is manager. Election of a shop chairman will be held shortly.

Despite the fact that the laws of the Province of Quebec prohibit any union contract to be signed for more than three years, the employers insisted on a five-year agreement threatening that if the union did not accept these terms, they would demand renegotiation of whatever provisions have been agreed on.

The Montreal Dress Joint Board promptly turned thumb down on what was clearly an over-stalling tactic on the part of the employers' group, and the union declared further, unless a settlement was reached soon, the union would resort to action instead of words.

Parleys with the guild began May 20, and have been marked by numerous deadlocks.

Vice Pres. Shane reports that the Montreal Dress Joint Board has donated \$500 to the St. Justine Children's Hospital building campaign and \$200 to the scholarship fund for "Les Amis de L'ART."

## \$3,000 to Causes From Kaplan Fund

A total of \$3,100 has been distributed to numerous worthy causes from the fund that was raised to honor Vice Pres. Benjamin Kaplan, manager of Local 117, New York City, who died last week.

Recipients include the Workers' Circle Old Age Union, the Jewish Labor Committee, Heflatrat, the Deborah and City of Hope Sanderfarms, HIAS, Forward Variation Fund, and the publications Dr. Wecker, Unser Zeit, Zukunft and Preve Arbeiter Stimme. The fund was raised from contributions and from the proceeds of the Journal that was issued in conjunction with the birthday dinner that was tendered to Kaplan last March.

## Issue Local 573 Charter To Daust Mfg. Workers

A charter establishing Local 573 has been issued to workers of the newly-organized Daust Manufacturing Co. in St. Louis, reports Vice Pres. Meyer Perlestein, Southwest regional director. Installation of the charter and newly elected officers will take place shortly.

## ... Second Place



Marilyn Smith, representing ILG Local 507, Poplarville, placed second in beauty contest.

## ... Runner-Up



Runner-up was Gale Long, member of Retail Clerks, Pascagoula.

## N'East Safeguards Jobs Of 400 at Loomcraft Co.

Timely and effective action by the Northeast Department resulted in saving the jobs of some 400 workers at plants of Loomcraft Farms in Potstown and Dickson City, Pa., and prevented removal of these shops to non-union areas.

According to Vice Pres. David Gingsdorf, director of the Northeast Department, when the union recently initiated steps to reopen the Loomcraft agreement, it learned that the owners were retiring and were planning to liquidate the business unless they could sell all the assets and the trade name.

When the news became generally known, an anti-union concern sought to purchase Loomcraft, with the intention of closing down the two unionized Pennsylvania plants and operating non-union in another area.

### Find New Owner

Determined to prevent the loss of jobs by workers at the two shops, which have been in ILGWU ranks since the Northeast Department was established in 1935, the union helped bring together Loomcraft owners, the Schneidersons, with Jack L. Honig.

Honig, who operates a number of plants in Pennsylvania under contract with the ILGWU, agreed to purchase the Loomcraft plants and to continue operations in their present locations and with the current employees.

Contract terms in effect at other Honig shops will be applied in the Loomcraft plants. These include the 32-hour week and standard health, welfare and retirement benefits financed by employer contributions. Negotiations were conducted by

Director Gingsdorf, aided by Managers Sol Greene of the Allentown District and Harry Schneider of the Berks District.

## '48' NAMES PICCIONE NEW ASS'T MANAGER

Etienne Piccione was elected assistant manager of Local 48, New York Italian Clockmakers, at the organization's membership meeting on July 17, Vice Pres. Edward Molinari, local manager, has announced.

Piccione succeeds Vincent Rinaldi, who after a lifetime of devoted service to the union, retired because of illness. A veteran member of the union since 1925, and until he was named to his new post, he was an assistant manager in the Newark, N.J. shop of the Brooklyn District, heading its Beneshurst district.

## Lang-Kohn in St. Louis Vows To Abide by S'West Clauses

It took more than signatures to guarantee that the management of Lang-Kohn of St. Louis would fulfill the provisions of its recently renewed agreement with the union, according to Vice Pres. Meyer Perstein, Southwest regional director.

In the case of this large dress firm, a special mid-day conference was required between a workers' committee and company executives, in order to correct certain "misinterpretations" of the contract by the firm's lawyers.

"Enlightened" by the conference as well as by the union's firm reminder that both parties were bound to abide by the contract of good faith, the employer agreed to the following:

—The employer will be obliged to pay an experienced worker not less than his average hourly earnings should that worker be transferred from one job of work to another.

—The firm will provide piece workers with a weekly statement of how much they produce and how their earnings are computed.

—Fourteen workers who failed to get their full vacation pay will receive what is due them.

—All workers in the pressing department will get back pay retroactive to the date the pay was due.

In St. Louis, meanwhile, shipping clerks from a dress

## PUERTO RICO HEALTH

(Continued from Page 2)

business on the island and thanked the ILGWU, in behalf of the Puerto Rican people, for its generous gift.

### Raise Island Wages

Pres. Dubinsky reviewed the recent legislative history of the drive to raise minimum wage rates for garment workers in Puerto Rico, among whom the ILGWU is conducting its organization campaign. He told how the mobile unit was developed for garment workers in Pennsylvania and of the special service it rendered during the 1953 Soviet period.

Dubinsky brought cheers from the vast throng when he declared that in a short period of about three years, the minimum wage rate for carpet and broom workers on the island had been raised from 22 cents per hour to 75 cents and in union shops to 80 cents plus other benefits.

He stressed that the low minimum rates that have prevailed have meant no money for medical care for workers, and that therefore both the workers and the community would benefit from the ILGWU gift. The union will meet the cost of housing and operating the unit until modification of the present agreement covering the island garment workers will lead to the establishment of a health and welfare fund to meet operating costs, he indicated.

## Impartial Checkup



H. Carl Goldenberg, impartial chairman for Montreal cloak and dress industries, is shown about to receive a clean bill of health from X-ray technician R. Lippe at ILGWU health center in Montreal.

## HOW TO BUY

by Sidney Margolin

## Here's How to Keep Lid On Soaring Food Prices

Moderate-income families are being squeezed by jumping food prices this summer. At this writing, potatoes are at record-high prices of 59 to 69 cents for five pounds, which is as high as \$1.21, many cuts of meat are displaying close to a dollar-a-pound tag, and many juices and produce items are more expensive.

Some of these newly-inflated prices are only temporary, as with potatoes, which are in comparatively short supply due to a poor growing season. But meat will continue comparatively expensive until next winter, and meat is the largest single food expense, taking 15-20 per cent of the average family's food dollar. With meat high, poultry and fish also are tending toward costlier levels, especially now that fewer broilers and fryers are coming into the markets.

A survey by this department finds that a market basket of 24 food items has gone up 6 per cent in cost just in the past two months from May to July, and is 2.2 per cent higher than a year ago, with more increases impending. A number of fruits and vegetable cost 10 to 50 per cent more than last summer, including oranges, green beans, onions and lettuce. Even some usually stable low-priced foods like margarine and cheddar cheese have gone up.

### Other Costs on Rise

The food-price situation poses a real problem this summer because of higher basic expenses, notably rent and home operation, and medical care, have been rising for some time. Only reasonable food prices last winter kept the cost of living in check. Now an average wage-earning family has to keep its food bills near the same amount as before even though prices of food have risen.

Here are suggestions for keeping costs down without sacrificing nourishment in this period:

**Compare Meat, Protein Values:** Pork, lamb and veal especially have jumped. In beef, you'll find best values—currently in chuck. For one thing, more grass-fed cattle is coming into the markets and less of the corn-fed beef which provides the higher grades of beef for broiling and dry-roasting. Also, during the hot months many families avoid the longer, moist cooking methods which chuck and stew beef require, in favor of the quicker broiling of steaks.

But you'll save by buying the less-popular cuts. Flank and round steaks are better buys than brisket even when their price is a little more, as you get about twice as many servings from the same weight of round or flank as brisket or pot roast.

In pork, shoulders and Boston butts are better buys than loin roasts or ham. Figure that a Boston butt not only is generally cheaper than loin, but has about 25 per cent more meat than loin or ham. Ham has a little more meat than loin and is a better buy when prices are about the same for each.

Lamb and veal are in lowest supply in late summer and are most expensive then. The shoulder roasts are better values than the legs. Fish for the main dish often will cost you 30-40 per cent less than meat.

### Use More Cheese, Eggs

**Stretch That Meat:** Besides looking for best values, stretch meat by using cheese and eggs to replace some of your family's meat. Natural cheddar and cottage cheese are still the least-expensive high-protein foods. Also use eggs in combination dishes with meat. In late summer and fall, pullet and medium eggs give you more for the money than large ones.

One of the most convenient and inexpensive ways to add high-quality protein nourishment is to make it with dry milk powder. Add it to soups, stews, fondies, meat and fish patties and casseroles, and use extra milk powder to build up the nourishment in cakes and desserts.

## STOTT NEGOTIATIONS IN MINNESOTA STRESS PAY RAISES, HOLIDAYS

Preparations for contract talks with Stott and Sons Corp. of Winona, Minn., are now in progress as a result of the recent National Labor Relations Board election in which workers voted overwhelmingly for the ILGWU to be their bargaining agent.

According to Vice Pres. Meyer Perstein, Southwest regional director, the following are among the improvements sought:

—Wage boosts for all workers employed by the firm six months or longer.

—Higher minimums for more experienced workers.

—Six paid holidays annually.

—One week's vacation for workers with one year's employment and two weeks' vacation for those employed longer.

—Health and medical benefits.

## All in the Family



Members of Local 459 (O'Fallon, Ill.) and 252 (Waterloo, Ill.) recently took cheer at St. Louis Art Museum to see "The Family of Man" photographic exhibit.

## CUTTERS' OWN

## Cutters Map Action Program To Find Jobs for 'Unattached'

A program of action regarding job placement and shop control was outlined by Vice Pres. Moe Falkman, manager of Cutters' Local 10, at a series of staff meetings held recently.

While practically all cutters are now employed as work in the shops, into high gear, the cutter chief explained, the jobs are, in some instances, of a temporary nature, and at the end of the fall season, there probably will be a certain number of cutters displaced as the result of some firms going out of business. Therefore, he stressed, it is important that business agents search for opportunities for placing members on permanent jobs.

## Problem Tackled

At the close of each season, in recent years, the number of cutters unattached to a regular or permanent job has averaged between two and three hundred out of a membership total of over 8,000. Were the problem not tackled with vigor, the number might spiral upward and assume serious proportions, Falkman said.

Fortunately, the local has been successful so far in putting displaced workers back on jobs within the reasonable time, thus keeping the problem at a manageable level.

In some instances when firms liquidated, cutters with 20 and 25 working years were left without jobs. Though they were qualified and experienced workers, their age might present some difficulties and call for the exertion of greater efforts in getting them back on jobs. This was particularly true in the east and mid industry.

Falkman stressed the moral obligation of the union to find jobs for members out of work through no fault of their own. He said that fewer firms were coming into the industry recently but on the other hand, some firms were expanding operations, opening up job opportunities. Other avenues for job placement, he pointed out, were active enforcement of the prohibition on overtime work in a shop where there is room for an additional cutter as well as having employment of non-union men.

In this connection, a project

was launched for a complete industry-wide check-up with business agents receiving cards containing the names of cutters employed at each shop in accordance with union records and then visiting firms to verify the facts and make sure that cutting is done only by members of Local 10. This work will be expedited during the coming weeks.

Falkman alluded to the fact that, in some cases, after a job opening is found and possibly an employer's resistance overcome, obstacles arise because of the occasional unwillingness of a Local 10 member or members to have an additional cutter in the shop.

In such instances, the problem can be met by tact and persuasion, combined with firm insistence on sharing with fellow members, not "hogging" the available work through overtime while a brother member is without a job. Despite some resentment here and there, Falkman noted, this policy had gained the understanding of the great majority of the cutters.

## SUMMER EDUCATION PROGRAM TO ASSAY OVERSTREET'S BOOK

The ILGWU Education Department continues to schedule interesting summer sessions for members and the department's secretary, Fannie M. Cohn.

All members are invited to hear William Kunstler, well known lecturer and book reviewer, when he discusses the recently published book, "The Mind Goes South," by Harry and Bonora Overstreet. The ILGWU's air conditioned station at 1130 Broadway, on Wednesday, Aug. 15 at 8 P.M. The book is an important, psychological analysis of the "drama of understanding" one's fellow man.

Timely, stimulating topics will be on the agenda this fall, starting in October, when once again, the regular weekly programs are resumed. Plans are being made for Thursday evening and Saturday afternoon gatherings at which cultural, artistic and current events will be interspersed with general understanding educators and authorities. Other recreational activities, including folk dancing, will be part of the forthcoming program.

## Morgan's Daughter Casualty on 'Doria'

One of the casualties of the tragedy of the ramming and sinking of the *Andrea Doria*, that shocked the world last week was young Linda Morgan, the 14-year old daughter of Edward P. Morgan, who was on the ship also. Her father died at 7 P.M. on the American Broadcasting Company radio network. Pres. Dulles wired a message of condolence to Mr. Morgan in which he expressed shock over the tragedy you suffered in the loss of your daughter.

Also aboard the Italian liner were Mrs. and Mrs. Morris Novik. Mr. Novik has been radio consultant for the ILGWU for many years. The Italian ship also had Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Green. Mr. Green is owner of the Cotton City Wash and Dry place in the North River and in the South. Messages were sent to both couples by the union.

## "Onward . . ."



## TODAY AND TOMORROW

by Luigi Antonini FIRST VICE PRES. - ILGWU

## Anti-Labor Columnists Blur Steel Strike Data

The anti-labor columnist sits down at his typewriter, tugs at a white collar, then looks out the window of his air-conditioned room as he gropes for a new recipe of rhetorical poison to spew at striking steel workers, seeking improvements for their days and nights in a hell of heat to mold a basic material for the American economy.

## CORSET UNIT MOURNS PASSING OF SAM DUKE

Sam De Perna Duke, for the past eight years a business agent of New York Corset and Brasserie Local 32, died suddenly of a coronary occlusion on July 14. He was 44 years old.

Although still a young man at the time of his death, Duke already had many years of trade union service in his credit. In the early thirties, he had participated in the drive to organize teachers and social workers in New York Later, he and his wife, Marie, worked in the ILGWU drive to organize the knigwogs workers of Cleveland.

By 1942, Duke had worked as organizer in the aluminum and steel industries and had become an officer of the retail clerks' union. That year, he was selected to spend a year at Harvard University in a pioneer labor leadership training course. Duke typified the rising youthful officers of the trade union movement and was highly regarded by the workers whom he served. He leaves, in addition to his wife, a son, Jefferson, aged 15.

## Dress Liberal Boastride To Bear Mountain, Aug. 25

The annual boastride to Bear Mountain, sponsored by the Dressmakers' Liberal Party Club, will be held Saturday, Aug. 25. The boat will leave from 46th St. and Hudson River, at 9 A.M. sharp. Tickets, at \$1.50 round trip, are available from business agents and at the education department office at 210 West 46th St.

## BOOK FRONT

by Miriam Spicelander

## Politics Guides Of ADA, COPE Keys to Action

VOTING GUIDE 1956. Americans for Democratic Action. HOW TO WIN. AFL-CIO Committee on Political Education.

Millions of Americans next November will consider their duty well done after they have voted on Election Day. But the casting of the ballot, either by machine or with the old-fashioned pencil markings, is only the final stage of a complicated political process that gets started many weeks before Election Day.

Most Americans seem to believe that, aside from voting, there is little more they can do in an election campaign. Yet, the validity of our political system presupposes that the will of the people expresses itself not only in the selection among candidates offered for an office, but also in the determination of which candidates are, in the first place, to be put forth for that office.

The two excellent handbooks that have now been made available, one provided by ADA and the other by COPE, are concise explications of how any citizen can change his role in shaping the nation's political destiny.

The ADA book, after introductions by Eleanor Roosevelt and Elmer Davis, has separate chapters on the main political issues of the day by Harry S. Truman, Arthur Schlesinger Jr., Reinhold Niebuhr, Robert Nathan, Paul H. Douglas, Joseph P. Kamp Jr., Wayne Morse, Herbert H. Lehman and Charles F. Brannan.

Two chapters describe the national membership of the two major political parties and how they look to a TV viewer. A final chapter by Tony Tyler, ILGWU political director, points out the areas in which political decisions can be influenced by those who understand how such decisions are made, and provides a clear manual of political organization on the neighborhood level.

The handbook issued by COPE is an attractive and readable compendium of political experience in organizing voting strength.

In closing words, it should find its way into the hands of thousands of workers who, because they understand the impact of public policy on their own lives, will make the extra effort to bring the issues of the day to their own workers.

The ADA book lists what those issues are. The COPE handbook describes the techniques by which political action can be organized and organized. Together, they provide a basic two-volume guide to the making of a better America.

The readers of this column may wish to obtain one or both of these books in to forward a request to the ILGWU Political Department, 1130 Broadway, New York 18, N. Y.

## ILG Mourns Death Of Willy Dorchain

Willy Dorchain, U. S. representative of the International Transport Workers' Federation, died in New York of a heart attack at 52.

A native of Oostend, Belgium, he was a leader in the fight against free labor against Communist efforts to dominate unions. He established the New York office of the ITW and was an active member in the campaign to improve wages and working conditions of dockworkers.

In a message to Mrs. Maria Dorchain, Pres. David Dubinsky stated he was "profoundly grieved at the sudden and unexpected passing of your husband. He was a courageous and effective fighter for freedom and democracy."

## AUG. 1 STARTING DATE FOR EASTERN REGION PENSION APPLICATION

Applications for pension benefits from the Eastern Region Retirement Fund will be accepted Aug. 1 from 1956. If you are a member of the fund, you are eligible to apply, desiring to retire in January 1957, according to an announcement by Adolph Reid, administrator of the fund.

To be eligible for benefits, an applicant:

- must have reached the age of 65;
- must have been employed for at least 17 out of the last 25 years in one or more shops which have had collective agreements with the ILGWU; and the last 10 years must be continuous;
- as part of the above required years of employment, he must have been employed in one or more establishments which have contributed to the fund for four consecutive years. He immediately preceding his retirement.

The Eastern Region Retirement Fund covers some 10,000 workers in the Northeast, Eastern Ohio, Town and Upper Shosh Departments, except those employed in shops covered by "The Baltimore Fund of the New York Dress Industry."

# JUSTICE

INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

## THE HEALTH OF NATIONS

IN ONE OF THOSE COINCIDENCES that illuminate the less obvious patterns of human aspiration, the ILGWU this week announced a record high contribution of \$150,000 by its members to the 1956 March of Dimes, the dedication of an ILGWU Mobile Health Center to service the union's members in Puerto Rico, and the availability of the ILGWU Chicago Health Center to local health officers for public use in combating the outbreak of infantile paralysis in the Midwest metropolises.

We intend to stay within the bounds of modesty: the record of this union and its members for willing support of worthy causes is well known.

But it is always in place to point out that, through such good works, organized labor is rendering regular community services that go beyond the immediate needs of its members. This week the general public is being serviced directly by our Chicago health center; we are thankful that few of our members have had to call for aid from the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, much of whose important work they have helped to finance; the Puerto Rican garment workers, whose health will be serviced by the mobile unit drawn up in front of their island shops, will be the beneficiaries of the generosity of workers they have never met.

These immediate results are the fruit of organized labor's principled belief that the welfare of its members and the health and well being of the general community are inseparable bound together. It is a belief which holds human values above financial returns, a belief which the budget-minded businessmen who man the present administration in Washington are incapable of understanding.

THE HEALTH NEEDS OF THIS NATION are urgent and widespread. Even though we spend more than \$10 billion a year on health—far less than we spend on automobiles—we have not even begun to provide adequate health care for all.

The vast sum expended is not equitably distributed among all families. Indeed, voluntary insurance arrangements through which some families seek to pool and spread the mounting costs of health care, cover only about 20 per cent of the total medical expenditures, and most of these are of middle-income families.

But even today, 25 to 30 million Americans have incomes too small for a decent standard of living. Two-thirds of the families with incomes of less than \$2,000 have no health insurance.

Doctor bills still haunt millions of Americans. Illness is still a threat to any financial resources workers' families have been able to set aside for educational and other purposes. Only action by the federal government can begin to bring good medical care within the reach of all by spreading its costs among the entire population.

BUT THE BUSINESSMEN IN WASHINGTON can measure wealth only in terms of money, and not even a bad or inadequate health bill is floating around on the eve of Congressional adjournment. This means that countless Americans will remain without the ability to provide proper medical care for their families.

If the present administration and its leaders can worry only about the cost of a federal health program, rather than about the wastefulness of illness, if they tally their budgets only with dollars and not with human welfare, then we shall have to replace them this November with others who understand that the true wealth of a nation lies in the health and happiness of its people.

### "The 'Independent' Line"



### "A Jug of Wine and Thou..."



## Bored Paradise

By  
Paul Anderson

From a recent broadcast over the British Broadcasting Corp. by the assistant editor of Picture Post of London.

SWEDEN has become far and away the richest country of Europe—in fact the richest country of the world, in the sense that it has the largest and fastest-rising national income per head of population (not excluding Switzerland and the United States).

The secret behind this wealth is, basically, two things: first, constant industrial expansion and ever-increasing capital investment to exploit the country's vast natural resources; and, second, long-term economic planning that strives to combine a constant rise of the national income with its most rigorously egalitarian distribution.

As a result, three other things are conspicuous by their absence: strikes and industrial disputes are exceedingly rare; there are virtually no manufacturers' price rings or monopolies, and, thirdly, on the part of organized labor there is no sign of restrictive practices, there is no opposition to higher mechanization, to automation, to "time and motion studies," or to any other—even the most advanced—form of rationalization.

ONE tangible result of all this is that during the past year, 1955, the cost of living rose by 6 per cent. That seems high and almost inflationary. But wages and personal incomes rose by 10 per cent, and in exact accordance with it, rose industrial productivity or the output per man-hour.

As obvious, if not indeed more striking than the obvious national and personal wealth, is the drive towards the greatest possible equality of its distribution. Wealth and riches have now created their own problems—the rush and the competition for still higher standards of living, for still better and airier sets, still more modern schools, still better shopping facilities.

NEAR Stockholm, I inspected Sweden's most advanced attempt to cope with these by-products of an ever-rising standard of living which, in recent years, appears to have risen too fast and too sharply even for the long term planners. This is a brand-new satellite town called Vällingby Center—a somewhat breath-taking social experiment.

Housing between 25,000 and 30,000 people, this new city rises out of rocky, pine-covered ground like the dream city of a science-fiction film. There is an outer belt of pretty one-family bungalows sur-

rounding a group of ten-story blocks of flats.

There are meeting halls, youth centers, kindergartens, and a magnificent health center, with specialists' consulting rooms on the first floor. A church, a huge cinema, and a theatre (with a stage fit for grand opera) are now nearly complete. There is a modern, priced, if most luxuriously decorated, communal canteen, but also a Vällingby branch of one of Stockholm's most expensive restaurants.

From the eighth-floor canteen you overlook this little brave new world—the children running to school on footpaths that never cross a motor-road on the level; the well-dressed Swedish housewives doing their shopping in utmost comfort and leisure; the men parking their cars outside offices and factories; the distant timber bungalows, all centrally heated from one central power station—and you may well say to yourself, "The future has already happened."

YOU may ask: "Is everybody happy in this gilded, germ-free egalitarian paradise?" Yes and no. An old and famous Swedish Socialist told me firmly, "No," and added: "Life seems to have become empty and void of purpose. The normal tensions of society have disappeared. But man cannot live without tension. . . . We now find that people replace the normal fears and tensions of the normal battle of life by artificial fear and by personal tensions—by neurosis."

Is this an over-pessimistic view? It is hard to say. But when I visited a house-painter's bungalow at 11:15 in the morning, and found a working woman's home looking like so many color advertisement models out of a magazine—in excellent taste, but almost as if no human being had ever lived in it—I wondered what that woman would do with the rest of her day.

Would she just sit there, admiring her Finnish beech-wood furniture, her Picasso prints and her all-electric kitchen, and be quietly happy for the next seven hours? Or would she, as my friend put it, replace the normal worries and anxieties of life by highly artificial, personal, neurotic anxieties? I leave the question open. But the most surprising fact, perhaps, of the Most Advanced Welfare State is being is that last year's figure of suicides exceeded the annual toll of fatal traffic casualties.